

Application No. 09/591,044

Filed: June 9, 2000

TC Art Unit: 2112

Confirmation No.: 2567

REMARKS

The instant Amendment is filed in response to the official action dated September 22, 2004. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The status of the claims is as follows.

Claims 1-3 and 6-8 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-3 are allowed.

Claims 6-8 stand rejected.

Claims 6-7 have been amended.

The official action indicates that claims 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Catlin et al. (USP 6,526,518). The official action further indicates that claims 1-3 are deemed allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art fails to teach or suggest the limitation "in the event the first device is operating at the first clock rate and the second device is operating at the second reduced clock rate, to drive the clock line to a predetermined logic level while the data is stored in the data register, thereby enabling data transfer between the first device and the second device over the bus while the second device operates at the second reduced clock rate", in combination with other limitations recited in base claim 1.

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The Applicants have amended base claim 6 so as to include the limitations recited in allowable claim 1, including the limitation "in the event the first device is operating at the first clock rate and the second device is operating at the second reduced clock rate, driving the clock line to a predetermined logic level while the data is stored in the data register by the second device, thereby enabling data transfer between the first device and the second device over the bus while the second device operates at the second reduced clock rate". In view of this amendment, the Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 6 is allowable over the prior art of record including the Catlin reference.

The Applicants have also amended claim 7 to generally include the limitations recited in allowable claim 2, including the limitation "the clearing step being performable by the second device operating at least at the second reduced clock rate". Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 7 is allowable over the prior art of record including the Catlin reference.

The Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 7-8 are allowable at least for the reasons set forth with respect to independent claim 6. It is therefore respectfully submitted that

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the rejections of claims 6-8 under section 102 of the Patent Laws are unwarranted and should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is placed in a condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned Attorney to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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